

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
February 3, 2003
Room 305, State Capitol**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Thomas Hatch, Co-Chair
Rep. David Ure, Co-Chair
Sen. Ron Allen
Sen. Parley Hellewell
Rep. Craig W. Buttars
Rep. Carl W. Duckworth
Rep. Ben C. Ferry
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. Michael Noel
Rep. Brent D. Parker
Rep. Darin G. Peterson
Rep. Michael R. Styler

STAFF PRESENT: Steven Allred, Fiscal Analyst
Sharron Corelli, Committee Secretary

VISITORS: Attached to and made a part of these minutes

Sen. Hatch called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Buttars moved to approve the minutes of January 29, 2003. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hellewell, Rep. Gowans, and Rep. Parker absent for the vote.

Mr. Kevin Conway, Director, Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR), was invited to introduce members of his staff and discuss budget issues. Mr. Greg Sheehan, Administrative Services Section Chief, assisted Mr. Conway in his presentation.

Chair Hatch invited Mr. Glen Mecham and Mr. Glen McKee to speak to the committee regarding their concerns about the wolf situation in their area. The committee invited them to share their comments the following day with the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Standing Committee.

Mr. John Kimball, and Mr. Rich Danvir, Deseret Land and Livestock, briefly reported on a program they had applied for that would focus on habitat development.

Mr. Steven Allred, Fiscal Analyst, presented the **Wildlife Resources - Operating Budget** to the subcommittee. He proposed a total operating budget of \$36,542,600, distributed to programs as follows:

Director's Office	\$1,710,400
Administrative Services	5,574,600
Conservation Outreach	1,822,200
Law Enforcement	6,435,500
Habitat Council	2,385,100
Habitat Section	3,291,900
Wildlife Section	6,816,000
Aquatic Section	<u>8,506,900</u>
Total	\$36,542,600

MOTION: Rep. Ferry moved to add an appropriation from the General Fund Restricted - Wildlife

Heritage Account in the amount of \$10,000. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Peterson absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Styler moved to decrease the appropriation from Dedicated Credits by \$45,900, and increase the appropriation from the General Fund Restricted - Wildlife Resources Account by \$45,900, to properly account for non-game tax check-off revenues. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Peterson absent for the vote.

Mr. Allred recommended a transfer of \$10,300 General Funds from the Operating Budget to the Predator Control line item. The committee opted to postpone action on this recommendation until later.

Mr. Sheehan presented the division's proposed fee changes to the subcommittee. He indicated that the changes had been reviewed by the Regional Advisory Committees and the Wildlife Board. He and other division staff addressed the committee's questions and concerns.

Mr. Allred presented the following budget proposals:

Wildlife Resources - Cooperative Environmental Studies Budget - \$3,597,600 for this single-program line item.

Wildlife Resources - Contributed Research Budget - \$336,700 for this single-program line item.

Wildlife Resources - Predator Control Budget - Mr. Allred indicated that in order to meet statutory requirements, this line item will need another \$10,300 which could come from the Operating Budget. Barring future changes, he proposed a budget of \$66,400 for this program, all of which is transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Wildlife Resources - Reimbursement Budget - \$68,000 for this single-program line item. He indicated that actual costs incurred by the division, which are eligible for reimbursement, are \$277,100.

Wildlife Resources - Capital Budget - \$3,316,000, entirely in the Fisheries Program. He also reviewed prior-year monies in the Information and Education program and the Game Management program.

MOTION: Co-Chair Hatch moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimous with Sen. Hellewell, Rep. Peterson, and Rep. Ure absent for the vote.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

